

***SAMPLE
HEALTH OFFICER DECLARATION CLOSING SCHOOLS***

To School Officials:

The health department is ordering all schools to close immediately due to the pandemic flu epidemic in our community. If you have any questions regarding this declaration, please call Springfield/Greene County Health Department at (417) 864-1083.

Because the virus is spread easily from person-to-person, it is no longer safe for children to attend class. Colleges, day care centers and preschools also have been ordered to close.

Please inform your students' parents and guardians immediately that school facilities will be closed to all activities, including sport and non-academic events, and may remain closed for an extended period of time (for example, up to 6 weeks).

The purpose of closing schools is to decrease contact among children to decrease their risk of getting sick and to limit the spread of infection.

The health department will keep school officials updated as the situation changes. A press release is being issued to inform the public of this declaration.

Kevin Gipson
Public Health Director